

### HANDLING INDICATOR

RETAIN OR DESTROY

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FROM DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SUBJECT United States Policy Toward Cuba

# Summer United States Policy Toward Cuba

Department understands that Fidel Castro recently sent "long letter" to President Nkrumah of Ghana on U.S. policy toward Cuba, and may have sent similar letters to other Afro-Asian governments. Dept. believes following summary of U.S. position on Cuba may be useful in your contacts with government officials, press and public.

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The Cuban regime is a totalitarian communist tyranny and does not represent the will of the Cuban people. All parties except the Communist Party have been suppressed; free elections have not been held; there is no freedom of the press, radio and television; the secret police system and "informer" network is extremely comprehensive; and hundreds of opponents

of the

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of the regime have been shot without fair trial. Many thousands of Castro's original supporters have been executed, are in prison under subhuman conditions, or are in exile. The thousands of people leaving Cuba each month are now increasingly from the middle and lower classes.

On December 2, 1961, at the time that Castro openly espoused Marxism-Leninism, he also admitted that he had imposed government by force.

Castro's regime has been a constant source of trouble and suffering for the Cuban people. It has been a constant source of trouble and suffering for the Cuban people. It has been a constant source of trouble and suffering for the Cuban people.

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The recent arrivals in Cuba of large additional numbers of Soviet arms and technicians, which have made Cuba an armed camp, accentuate the already well-advanced process by which the Cuban leaders have deliberately surrendered the independence of their country and have subordinated the well-being of their people to an external power. In alignment with the Communist bloc, the Castro regime has publicly urged the overthrow of free governments elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere, and is actively opposing through subversion and other means the development of free societies in the Americas. The Cuban regime is a constant source of trouble and suffering for the Cuban people.

During the 16th General Assembly of the United Nations, Cuba voted with the Soviet bloc on almost every major international issue. Cuba's espousal of the communist line at recent conferences in Belgrade and Cairo exposed the emptiness of the Cuban regime's claim that it is non-aligned.

The United States Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is maintained in accordance with international agreements between the United States and Cuba.

The Base

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To; AF, MEA AND FE POSTS

The Base is important to the defense of the Western Hemisphere, and poses no threat to the sovereignty of Cuba or to the security of the Cuban people.

The United States admires the Cuban patriots involved in the April 1961 landings in Cuba who desired to see a democratic system in an independent Cuba.

There is no evidence of any significant offensive military capability in Cuba. Unilateral military intervention on the part of the U.S. cannot be required or justified. However, if at any time the Communist buildup in Cuba endangers or threatens our security or that of any other part of the hemisphere in any way, the U.S. will do its part, and will join with other countries of this hemisphere, to make sure that the increased armaments which the Soviet Union has furnished Cuba, while a burden to the Cuban people, will be nothing more than that.

Also suggest you refer to President's policy statements September 4 and 13 on Cuba.

End

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